

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A remote-operated control system having a master-control unit and a remote-control unit capable of radio transmission therebetween for use with a pool or spa, comprising:
said remote-control unit including a first pulse position modulated transceiver associated therewith; and
said master-control unit including a second pulse position modulated transceiver associated therewith.
2. The system of claim 1, wherein said remote-control unit and said master-control unit communicate bidirectionally with pulse position modulated radio signals, using distributed data processing.
3. The system of claim 1, wherein said remote-control unit comprises a display that enables a user to ascertain the status of at least one operating parameter of a pool or spa.
4. The system of claim 3, wherein said display enables the user to determine the temperature of water in the pool or spa.
5. The system of claim 1, wherein said remote-control unit comprises a keypad that enables a user to send at least one control signal to said master-control unit.
6. The system of claim 5, wherein the control signal tells said master-control unit to turn a spa heater on or off.

7. The system of claim 5, wherein the control signal tells said master-control unit to turn spa jets on or off.

8. The system of claim 5, wherein the control signal tells said master-control unit to turn a spa light on or off.

9. A remote-operated control-and-status-update system for a pool or spa, comprising:

a remote-control unit including a display and a keypad;

a first transceiver connected to said remote control unit;

a master-control unit attached to a pool or spa; and with distributed solid state data processing; and

a second transceiver connected to said master control unit;

wherein said first transceiver sends command signals to said second transceiver and said first transceiver receives status signals from said second transceiver; and wherein the command signals and the status signals are pulse position modulated radio waves that travel through air between said first and second transceivers.

10. The system of claim 9, wherein said first transceiver sends to said second transceiver command signals that were manually input to said remote-control unit via the

keypad, and wherein said first transceiver receives from said second transceiver status signals that are communicated to a user via the display using distributed solid state data processing.

11. A method of communicating control information from a distance to a control-and-monitor unit and obtaining status information from a distance from a control-and-monitor unit, the control -and -monitor unit associated with a pool or spa, the method comprising the steps of:

transmitting from a remote-control unit to the master-control unit at least one pulse position modulated radio-wave signal command concerning an operating function of the pool or spa;

sending from there mote-control unit to the master-control unit at least one pulse position modulated radio-wave signal requesting that status information concerning operating parameters of the pool or spa be sent from the master-control unit to the remote-control unit; and

reading status information displayed by the remote-control unit and received from the master-control unit in response to the request signal of said sending step.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein said transmitting steps and said sending step are performed when the remote-control unit is situated inside a building and the master-control unit is situated outside of the building.

13. The method of claim 11, wherein said transmitting step comprises transmitting a command signal to turn a spa heater on or off.

